Revision of the Madras Elementary Education Act, 1920.

* 1541 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state with reference to the answer to clause (*c*) of question No. 672 answered on 26th November 1928—

(*a*) whether the Government have considered the question of revising the Madras Elementary Education Act, 1920, so as to make possible within reasonable time, free and compulsory for all children of school-going age; **and**

(*b*) if so, with what result?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The draft bill to revise the Elementary Education Act of 1920, which has been prepared is still under the consideration of the Government.

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI:—"May I know whether this draft Bill is likely to be presented in this House before this session?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I cannot give any definite statement at present."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI:—"Will it be presented before the life of this Council?"

The hon. Dr P. SUBBARAYAN:—"It has still to be considered along with the Local Boards Act."

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN:—"May I know when they started?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"About a year ago."

Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI:—"May I know whether the hon. Minister will see that this Bill comes up before the Council before his regime?"

Local Boards

Nomination of Mr. Gonsalves to the Nilgiris District Board.

* 1542 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the District Collector of Nilgiris has recommended to Government the nomination to that Board of one Mr. Gonsalves as member;

(*b*) whether the said Mr. Gonsalves stood recently for election to the Board and was defeated at the polls; and

(*c*) what is the number of Anglo-Indians and of the other communities on the Nilgiris District Board and why a defeated candidate was nominated to that Board?

A.—(*a*) The Government are not prepared to furnish the information.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) The present nominated members of the Board are one Anglo-Indian, one Muhammadan and one member of the Depressed Classes. No defeated candidate has been nominated to the Board.